



The Logiskills Group

Irish Freight & Logistics Monthly

July 2007

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Dear Garvan,

Welcome to the July edition of Irish Freight & Logistics Monthly.

You have been included within our mailing list because we consider you to be a valuable contributor to the industry.

We are aware of the communities need for an electronic platform for company announcements and press releases. We invite you to forward details to us for consideration in the next edition.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and will strive to enhance it, so please send any feedback and suggestions to editor@logiskills.ie

Please feel free to forward this to any interested colleagues who can register to receive it from our home page at www.logiskills.ie

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter and wish to be removed from our mailing list, please click on the unsubscribe link above.

• Container freight service to return?



Speculation is rife in transport circles that Iarnrod Eireann is about to re-open the container freight service it closed some two years ago, as reported recently in Irish Trucker.

It is understood that the company is considering an approach by the passenger booking service Railtours which has identified the potential for growth in corporate freight traffic.

Companies like NSB BA in Norway are reportedly experiencing great business on rail freight which it transfers to road and sea carriers.

However Iarnrod Eireann explained that in 2005 when it closed down the service, its container freight business

World Low Cost Airlines Congress Congress

17-20 September 2007, Great Britain, London

4th Thai Ports and Shipping 2007

27 September 2007 - 28 September 2007, Thailand

Transpotec-Logitec 2007 Exhibition and Conference

October 4-7, Milan, Italy

4th Uzbekistan International exhibition

12 October 2007 - 14 October 2007, Uzbekistan

2nd Southern Asia Ports, Logistics and Shipping 2007 India Exhibition and Conference

18 October 2007 - 19 October 2007, India

Dalian International Freight Forwarders & Logistics Cooperation Forum

25 October 2007 - 27 October 2007, China

Logistics Ireland

October, Croke Park, Dublin

3rd Trans Middle East 2007 Egypt Exhibition and Conference

28 November 2007 - 29 November 2007, Egypt

6th ASEAN Ports and Shipping 2008 Vietnam Exhibition and Conference

05 June 2008 - 06 June 2008, Vietnam

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closed down the service, its container freight business represented just 10% of its overall freight business but accounted for 70% of its losses.

• **Outer Orbital Route Needs Decision**



A debate is raging about the merits of building a new orbital route around the Greater Dublin Area with the hope that traffic gridlock would be almost eliminated.

One of the proposals is to start the route at the Gormanstown Interchange on the M1 beside Bremore Port and circle around the city crossing the M2, M3 and joining the M7 at the Kilkullen Interchange.

Commenting, Deputy Vice President of the IRHA Paul Tuohy said "now is the time to progress this debate, there may even be an argument to move it out further".

• **US Congress approves Radiation Container Screening**



The US Congress has approved an anti-terrorism bill implementing many recommendations of the commission that investigated the 11 September attacks.

The bill, which the White House says George W Bush will sign, allocates a greater share of funding to cities at higher risk of terrorist attack.

It also requires the authorities to screen all cargo on passenger planes and container ships within five years for radiation.

• **Ireland & UK Boost Wincanton Results by £42m**



A strong performance in the Ireland & UK has boosted full year results at Wincanton.

Underlying operating profit rose 8.3 per cent to £45.5 million in the year to 31st March while sales were up 6.8 per cent to £1.93 billion. The UK and Ireland business produced an underlying operating profit of £42m - 11.1 per cent up on last year while sales were up five per cent.

**Driver Hire
(Ireland)**

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However, in the Continental business, underlying operating profit of £3.5m was down on last year's £4.2m. The company said this was significantly below what it believed represented the profit potential of those businesses: "Although some of our operations are expected, structurally, to deliver lower margins, we are nonetheless committed to delivering a significant improvement on the sub-one per cent margin reported on this year's turnover of £718.6m."

• **Fyffes' shipping plans go pear-shaped**



A new transatlantic cargo shipping service provided by fruit distributor Fyffes hit a banana skin just weeks after its launch, as recently reported in the Sunday Business Post.

The company said last week that the EWL Rotterdam, the vessel it had commissioned to ship bananas and pineapples from the Caribbean to Dublin and to transport

merchandise for Irish exporters on the return journey, ran into "minor" engine trouble and needed a rescue mission to bring its cargo to dry land.

The ship is believed to have run into difficulty 300 miles off the coast of Mizen Head.

Crew made efforts to fix the problem, but the company was forced to send out another vessel to tow them to safety and ensure tonnes of ripening fruit made it to the next leg of the journey before the event turned sour.

The ship was towed to the port of Foynes on the Shannon estuary "as a precautionary measure", rather than its intended destination of Dublin.

While Foynes was closer to the stranded ship's location, the move forced the company to send a fleet of trucks westwards to pick up the cargo for onward distribution.

- **Logistics Co. Wins Premier Foods Contract**



A local logistics company based in Ashbourne, Co Meath is to benefit from an outsourcing contract announced by Premier Foods.

It says the distribution jobs are being outsourced because the company required an enlarged facility not available in any of the existing sites and the flexibility to provide the necessary service levels and response times to meet customers' needs.

- **Announce Your Success Here!**

Please submit your company announcements to editor@logiskills.ie for consideration in our next edition.